

Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended): A method for tracking ~~a piece of~~ content and creating new intellectual property comprising: receiving an entry of ~~[[a]] first piece of~~ content relating to a first piece intellectual property from a first user; storing the first ~~piece of~~ content relating to the first piece of intellectual property with a time stamp and an identifier of the first user, wherein the first piece of intellectual property relates to at least one first idea, invention, patent, trademark, trade secret or copyright; preventing any changes to the first ~~piece of~~ content, the time stamp, and the identifier after the first ~~piece of~~ content, the time stamp, and the identifier have been stored~~[[,]]~~; reviewing second content relating to a second piece of intellectual property from a second user~~[[,]]~~ wherein the second piece of intellectual property relates to at least one second idea, invention, patent, trademark, trade secret or copyright; linking the first content with the second content; and combining each of the piece pieces of intellectual property from each of the user users to create new intellectual property, wherein the new intellectual property is at least one new idea, invention, patent, trademark, trade secret, or copyright.
2. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising: presenting a user interface to each of the user users through which the ~~piece of~~ content relating to the pieces of intellectual property may be received; and crediting each of the user users with their contribution to the new intellectual property.
3. (original): The method of claim 2, wherein the user interface is a Web page.
4. (original): The method of claim 2, wherein the user interface is an email client.

5. (original): The method of claim 2, wherein the user interface is presented in a page paradigm.
6. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising: designating the first or second ~~piece~~ of content relating to the first and second pieces of intellectual property as having a value to the corresponding user.
7. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising: tracking a value associated with the first or second ~~piece~~ of content relating to the first and second pieces of intellectual property.
8. (original): The method of claim 7, wherein the value is an estimated value.
9. (original): The method of claim 7, wherein the value is a market value.
10. (original): The method of claim 7, wherein the value is a compound value.
11. (original): The method of claim 7, wherein the value is a proportional value.
12. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising: tracking ~~the~~ an owner of the first or second ~~piece~~ of content.
13. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising: providing information relating to the first or second ~~piece~~ of content to a trading system.
14. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising: providing information relating to the first or second ~~piece~~ of content to a docketing system.
15. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising: maintaining metadata relating to the first or second ~~piece~~ of content.

16. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising: maintaining log data relating to the first or second ~~piece of~~ content.
17. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising: maintaining context information relating to the first or second ~~piece of~~ content.
18. (currently amended): The method of claim 17, wherein the context information identifies a collaborative relationship between the ~~user~~ first and second ~~user~~ users.
19. (currently amended): The method of claim 18, wherein the collaborative relationship is a joint project of the ~~user~~ first and the second ~~user~~ users.
20. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising controlling access to the first or second ~~piece of information~~ content by the first and second users.
21. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising: maintaining information relating to the first or second user.
22. (currently amended): The method of claim 21, wherein the information ~~relating to the user~~ includes personal information.
23. (currently amended): The method of claim 21, wherein the information ~~relating to the user~~ includes employment information.
24. (currently amended): The method of claim 21, wherein the information ~~relating to the user~~ includes functional role information.
25. (previously presented): The method of claim 24, further comprising controlling access to the first or second content based upon the functional role information.

26- 27. (canceled)

28. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising: enabling the first or second ~~piece~~ of content to be linked to a file.

29. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising: storing the first or ~~second piece~~ of content, the time stamp, and the identifier of the first user with a draft status.

30. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising: storing the first or ~~second piece~~ of content, the time stamp, and the identifier of the first user with a registered status.

31. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising: linking the first or second ~~piece~~ of content, the time stamp, and the identifier to other information.

32. (currently amended): The method of claim 31, further comprising: storing with the first or second ~~piece~~ of content, the time stamp, and the identifier recovery information identifying the other information.

33. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising: storing the first or second ~~piece~~ of content, the time stamp, and the identifier in a permanent form.

34. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising: storing the first or second ~~piece~~ of content, the time stamp, and the identifier in a manner that permits the content to be admissible as evidence.

35. (currently amended): The method of claim 34, wherein the first or second ~~piece of~~ content, the time stamp, and the identifier are stored such that the first or second ~~piece of~~ content, the time stamp, and the identifier cannot be separated.

36. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising: submitting the first or second content, the time stamp, and the identifier to a witness.

37. (original): The method of claim 36, wherein the witness is a third party.

38. (canceled)

39. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising generating a digital fingerprint for the first or second content, the time stamp, and the identifier, and storing the digital fingerprint.

40. (currently amended): A system for tracking and creating new intellectual property comprising: a workstation that receives an entry of a first ~~piece of~~ content relating to a first piece of intellectual property from a first user, wherein the first piece of intellectual property relates to at least one first idea, invention, patent, trademark, trade secret or copyright; a server that stores the first ~~piece of~~ content with a time stamp and an identifier of the first user, and prevents any changes to the first ~~piece of~~ content, the time stamp, and the identifier after the first ~~piece of~~ content, the time stamp, and the identifier have been stored; reviewing second content relating to a second piece of intellectual property from a second user, wherein the second piece of intellectual property relates to at least one second idea, invention, patent, trademark, trade secret or copyright; linking the first content with the second content relating to intellectual property at the work station and combining each piece of intellectual property from each of the user users to create new intellectual property, wherein the new intellectual property is at least one new idea, invention, patent, trademark, trade secret, or copyright.

41. (currently amended): The system of claim 40, wherein the workstation also presents a user interface to each of the user users through which the first or second piece of content may be received.

42. (original): The system of claim 41, wherein the user interface is a Web page.

43. (original): The system of claim 41, wherein the user interface is an email client.

44. (original): The system of claim 41, wherein the user interface is presented in a page paradigm.

45. (currently amended): The system of claim 40, wherein the server also designates the first and second piece of content as having a value to the corresponding user.

46. (currently amended): The system of claim 40, wherein the server also tracks a value associated with the first or second piece of content.

47. (original): The system of claim 46, wherein the value is an estimated value.

48. (original): The system of claim 46, wherein the value is a market value.

49. (original): The system of claim 46, wherein the value is a compound value.

50. (original): The system of claim 46, wherein the value is a proportional value.

51. (currently amended): The system of claim 40, wherein the server also tracks ~~the~~ an owner of the first or second piece of content.

52. (currently amended): The system of claim 40, wherein the server also provides information relating to the first or second piece of content to a trading system.

53. (currently amended): The system of claim 40, wherein the server also provides information relating to the first or second ~~piece of~~ content to a docketing system.

54. (currently amended): The system of claim 40, wherein the server also maintains metadata relating to the first or second ~~piece of~~ content.

55. (currently amended): The system of claim 40, wherein the server also maintains log data relating to the first or second ~~piece of~~ content.

56. (currently amended): The system of claim 40, wherein the server also maintains context information relating to the first or second ~~piece of~~ content.

57. (currently amended): The system of claim 56, wherein the context information identifies a collaborative relationship between the ~~user~~ first and the second ~~user~~ users.

58. (currently amended): The system of claim 57, wherein the collaborative relationship is a joint project of the ~~user~~ first and the second ~~user~~ users.

59. (currently amended): The system of claim 40, wherein the server controls access to the first or second ~~piece of~~ content.

60. (currently amended): The system of claim 40, wherein the server maintains information relating to the first and second ~~user~~ users.

61. (currently amended): The system of claim 60, wherein the information ~~relating to the user~~ includes personal information.

62. (currently amended): The system of claim 60, wherein the information ~~relating to the user~~ includes employment information.

63. (currently amended): The system of claim 60, wherein the information ~~relating to the user~~ includes functional role information.

64. (currently amended): The system of claim 63, wherein the server also controls access to the first or second ~~piece of~~ content based upon the functional role information.

65. (currently amended): The system of claim 40, wherein the server also enables the first or second ~~piece of~~ content to be linked to another ~~piece of~~ content that is already stored.

66. (currently amended): The system of claim 65, wherein the other ~~piece of~~ content was created by another user.

67. (currently amended): The system of claim 40, wherein the server also enables the first or second ~~piece of~~ content to be linked to a file.

68. (currently amended): The system of claim 40, wherein the server also stores the first ~~or second piece of~~ content, the time stamp, and the identifier of the first user with a draft status.

69. (currently amended): The system of claim 40, wherein the server also stores the first ~~or second piece of~~ content, the time stamp, and the identifier of the first user with a registered status.

70. (currently amended): The system of claim 40, wherein the server links the first ~~or second~~ content, the time stamp, and the identifier to other information.

71. (currently amended): The system of claim 70, wherein the server stores with the first ~~or second~~ content, the time stamp, and the identifier recovery information identifying the other information.

72. (previously presented): The system of claim 40, wherein the server stores the first or second content, the time stamp, and the identifier in a permanent form.

73. (previously presented): The system of claim 40, wherein the server stores the first or second content, the time stamp, and the identifier in a manner that permits the first or second content to be admissible as evidence.

74. (previously presented): The system of claim 73, wherein the first or second content, the time stamp, and the identifier are stored such that the first or second content, the time stamp, and the identifier cannot be separated.

75. (previously presented): The system of claim 40, wherein the server submits the first or second content, the time stamp, and the identifier to a witness.

76. (original): The system of claim 75, wherein the witness is a third party.

77. (canceled)

78. (previously presented): The system of claim 40, wherein the server generates a digital fingerprint for the first or second content, the time stamp, and the identifier, and stores the digital fingerprint.

79. (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein the first or second piece of intellectual property is at least one ~~idea, invention~~, patent, trademark or copyright.

80. (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein the new intellectual property is at least one ~~idea, invention~~, patent, trademark or copyright.

81. (currently amended): A system for tracking and creating new intellectual property comprising:

receiving an entry of a first intellectual property element from a first user; ~~and~~
storing the first intellectual property element with a time stamp and an identifier of the first user in a database, wherein the first intellectual property element relates to at least one first idea, invention, patent, trademark, trade secret or copyright;

receiving an entry of a second intellectual property element from a second user;
storing the ~~first~~ second intellectual property element with a time stamp and an identifier of the second user in the database, wherein the second intellectual property element relates to at least one second idea, invention, patent, trademark, trade secret or copyright;

reviewing the first intellectual property element and the second intellectual property element[[],];

linking the first intellectual property element with the second intellectual property element stored in the database; and

combining the first and second intellectual property elements to create new intellectual property, wherein the new intellectual property is at least one new idea, invention, patent, trademark, trade secret, or copyright.

82. (previously presented): The system according to claim 81, further comprising a crediting process to credit each user with their contribution to the new intellectual property.

83. (previously presented): The system according to claim 81, wherein the system tracks a value associated with each intellectual property element.

84. (previously presented): The system of claim 83, wherein the value is at least one of an estimated value, a market value, a compound value, or a proportional value.

85. (currently amended): The system according to claim 81, wherein the first or second intellectual property element relates to ~~[[is]]~~ at least one first or second ~~idea, invention,~~ patent, trademark or copyright.

86. (currently amended): The system according to claim 81, wherein the new intellectual property is at least one new ~~idea, invention,~~ patent, trademark or copyright.

87. (currently amended): A system according to claim 40, wherein the system further comprises a custodian workstation allowing a custodian to verifying the integrity of information contained in the system and an administrator workstation which allows the administrator to oversee each user ~~the users~~ of the system.

88. (currently amended): A method for tracking and managing a piece of content relating to intellectual property comprising: receiving an entry of the piece of content relating to intellectual property from a user; storing the piece of content with a time stamp and an identifier of the user; preventing any changes to the piece of content, the time stamp, and the identifier after the piece of content, the time stamp, and the identifier have been stored; designating the piece of content as having a value to the user and tracking an estimated, market, compound, or a proportional value associated with the piece of content relating to the intellectual property, wherein the intellectual property relates to a patent, trademark, trade secret, or copyright.